

Examples of Conservation Plantings on Farms

Prepared by:
Sam Earnshaw
Community Alliance
with Family Farmers
(CAFF)

(831) 722-5556

www.caff.org

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OUTLINE of Presentation

Vegetation Plantings:

Places and situations for grasses, hedgerows, trees:

Erosion areas

Drainage ditches

Weedy areas, vacant, unused

Berms, areas between fields

Barriers – public roads, neighbors

Roadsides

Field edges

Issues:

Food safety - barriers, distance

Weeds - mulch, Alyssum

Conservation Practices: Ways Farmers are Using Vegetation

- Hedgerows, Grassed Waterways, Filter Strips,
Windbreaks

Functions:

- Soil erosion control
- Weed control
- Beneficial insect and pollinator habitat
- Wildlife habitat
- Non-point source water pollution reduction
- Air quality and dust control
- Barriers
- Riparian stabilization
- Windbreak and climate modification
- Aesthetic value
- Economic returns
- Increase in local and regional biodiversity

Perennial Grasses In Ditch for Erosion and Weed Control



Establishing a Perennial Grassed Waterway: Add Seed and Water



Perennial Grassed Waterway



Perennial Grasses In Waterway between Fields



Perennial Grass (Creeping Wildrye) along Waterway



Erosion



Erosion control With Vegetation And Structures





Grassed Ditch with
Flow-control Weir

Converting Eroding Ditch To Grassed Waterway



Vegetated Ditch for Erosion Control and Habitat



From Bare Dirt to Perennial Native Grass



Perennial Grass along Roadside



Filter Strips



Filter Strips



Erosion Control
in Swale with Grasses,
Wetland Plants and
Yarrow



Before



After

Storm Runoff down Swale Jan. 1, 2004



Swale Vegetation Preventing Formation of Gully Erosion 1/02/04 (one day after storm)



Before Vegetation



Swale, 3/04



Perennial Grass from seed on steep ground



Staking Willows in Eroding Ditch



Erosion Ditch, Planted to Willows



Grassed Waterway With Field Barrier



Fence Barrier Encircling Field



Field Barriers



Field Barriers



Hedgerow next to Spinach Field



Short Flowers and Shrubs on Berm: Attract Insects, Replace Weeds and Prevent Erosion



Alyssum as Insectary, Weed Control



Creeping Wildrye as Understory on Riparian Berm



Erosion Control- Grass and Shrubs vs. Bare Soil



Providing Barrier from Neighbors





Providing Barrier,
Dust Protection



Hedgerow on Strawberry field, 18 months old



Hedgerows with Mulch



Hedgerows Along Roads



Hedgerows at Farm Edges
(Cover Crop)

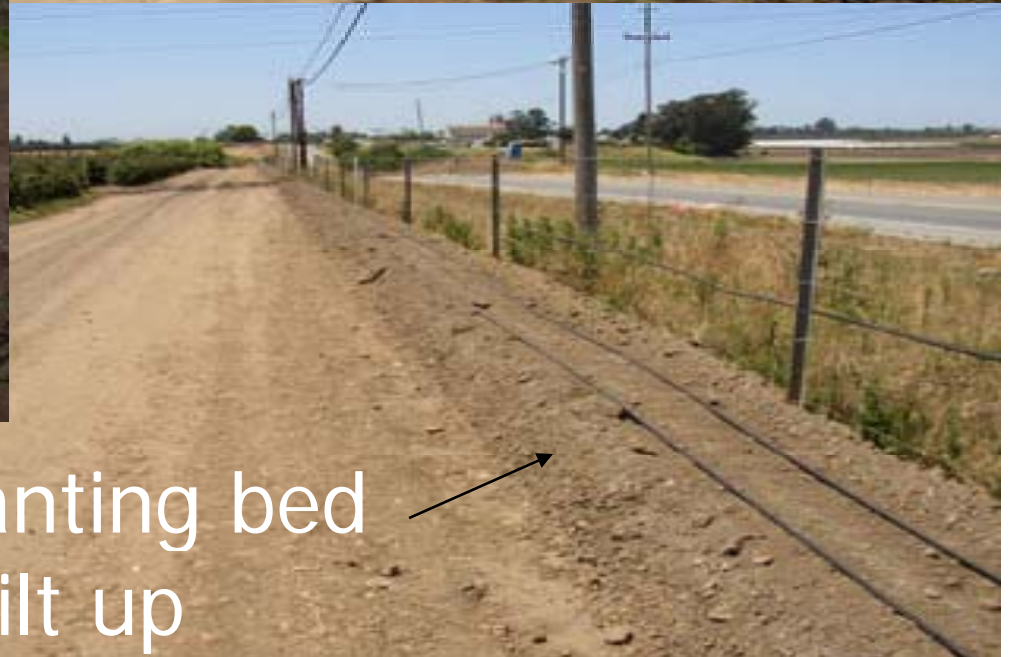
DIVERSITY
BENEFICIAL INSECT &
POLLINATOR HABITAT



Starting with Flat Bare Ground



Two years later



Planting bed
built up

Salinas Valley Hedgerow and Grassed Berm



Plants
Growing Together,
Forming One Hedge



Hedgerow 7 Years Old: Ceanothus, Coffeeberry,
Baccharis, Elderberry, Toyon



Windbreak, using Redwood, Incense Cedar, Pepper Tree, Giant Sequoia, Soapbark Tree, Strawberry Madrone



Windbreak





For More Information on Farmscaping, Contact
Sam Earnshaw, (831) 722-5556 or www.caff.org

Resource Guide: Hedgerows for California Agriculture
Available for downloading on CAFF Web site